



STATE OF NEVADA
SAGEBRUSH ECOSYSTEM COUNCIL
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MEETING OF THE SAGEBRUSH ECOSYSTEM COUNCIL
Thursday and Friday, January 23rd and 24th, 2014 8:30 a.m.
The Legislative Building
401 S Carson Street, Room 4100, Carson City, Nevada 89701

The meeting is available for viewing on the internet at:
<http://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/Calendar/A/>

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment will be taken at the beginning and end of the meeting, and may be taken at the discretion of the Chair on agenda items listed for possible action. Public comments may be limited to 3 minutes per person at the discretion of the Chair. Comment will not be restricted based on viewpoint. No action will be taken on any matters raised during the public comment period that are not already on the agenda. Persons making comment will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record.

3. REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF AGENDA - *FOR POSSIBLE ACTION*

4. REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES - *FOR POSSIBLE ACTION*

A. Approval of minutes from the meeting held January 8, 2014.

5. COUNCIL MEMBER ITEMS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

A. Council members may make comments at this time and the Program Manager will bring forward any pertinent correspondence directed to the Council.

6. UPDATE ON THE PROGRESS TO AMEND THE LIVESTOCK GRAZING PORTION OF THE STATE'S ALTERNATIVE (ALT. "E") IN THE BLM/USFS SUB-REGIONAL DRAFT EIS. *FOR POSSIBLE ACTION*

A. Discussion and report on the SETT's efforts to develop amendments to the State's DEIS alternative and the State Plan. – *Kelly McGowan, SETT.*

- 7. PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT SAGE-GROUSE HABITAT SUITABILITY MODEL CURRENTLY BEING DEVELOPED BY THE USGS. *FOR POSSIBLE ACTION***
 - A. A presentation of draft products from the habitat suitability modeling currently being developed by the USGS for the Sagebrush Ecosystem Program. – *Dr. Peter Coates, USGS*
 - B. Discussion of the outputs of the draft USGS model and possible consideration of accepting some or all of the current products.

- 8. PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED SAGE-GROUSE MANAGEMENT MAPS TO INCLUDE POSSIBLE ADOPTION OF NEW MANAGEMENT CATEGORIES AND REVISION OF SAGE-GROUSE MANAGEMENT AREAS (SGMA). *FOR POSSIBLE ACTION***
 - A. Discussion and possible adoption of definitions of management categories as presented initially in the “Avoid Process” approved at the October 10, 2013 SEC meeting. *Sagebrush Ecosystem Technical Team and Dr. Peter Coates, USGS.*
 - B. Discussion and possible adoption of revised Sage Grouse Management Area boundaries to reflect outputs from the habitat suitability model. -- *Sagebrush Ecosystem Technical Team.*

- 9. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF SAGEBRUSH ECOSYSTEM PROGRAM COMMENTS AND LETTER, ON THE BLM/USFS SUB-REGIONAL DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (DEIS). *FOR POSSIBLE ACTION***
 - A. Discussion and consideration of comments on the Sub-regional DEIS prepared by the SETT and submitted by the Council. Possible development of additional comments on specific items to be considered by the Council. – *Sagebrush Ecosystem Technical Team.*
 - B. Discussion and consideration of a cover letter, and authorizing the Chair to sign the developed letter, to accompany the prepared comments submitted to BLM. – *Sagebrush Ecosystem Technical Team.*

- 10. CONSIDERATION OF CREATION OF A COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL MEMBERS TO REVIEW AND PROVIDE INPUT INTO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CONSERVATION CREDIT SYSTEM AND REPORT BACK TO THE FULL COUNCIL FOR FURTHER ACTION; AND THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS THERETO. *FOR POSSIBLE ACTION***
 - A. Discussion and possible creation of a committee, consisting of current Council Members, and authorize the Chair to appoint members of the committee to work with the SETT and the contractor on the development of the Conservation Credit System.
 - B. Appointment of Council members to serve on the Committee. – *JJ Goicoechea, Chair*

- 11. PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS PRESENTED BY ENVIRONMENTAL INCENTIVES, THE CONTRACTOR DEVELOPING THE STATE’S CONSERVATION CREDIT SYSTEM. *FOR POSSIBLE ACTION***

A. Discussion and consideration of Habitat Quantification tool, policies, and operations involving the work to develop the Conservation Credit System. – *Jennifer Newmark, Nevada Natural Heritage Program Administrator; Jeremy Sokulsky, Eoin Doherty and Katie Riley -- Environmental Incentives.*

12. REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS DRAFTED ON FLIP CHARTS DURING THIS MEETING - *FOR POSSIBLE ACTION*

A. With staff assistance, the Council will review items discussed, as well as items acted upon during this meeting, and determine which of those they wish to direct staff to do further work on, as well as which items the Council wishes to act on that may not have been acted upon during earlier discussion.

B. Determination of any specific items the Council would like to work on at their February 13th, 2014 meeting, which is the next scheduled Council meeting.

13. FEDERAL AGENCY UPDATES AND COMMENTS:

- A. US Fish and Wildlife Service
- B. Bureau of Land Management
- C. US Forest Service
- D. Other

14. STATE AGENCY UPDATES AND COMMENTS:

- A. Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
- B. Department of Wildlife
- C. Department of Agriculture
- D. Sagebrush Ecosystem Technical Team
- E. Other

15. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment may be made on any matter, provided that comment will be limited to matters relevant to the Council. Public comments may be limited to 3 minutes per person at the discretion of the Chair. Comment will not be restricted based on viewpoint. No action will be taken on any matters raised during the public comment period that are not already on the agenda. Persons making comment will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record.

16. ADJOURNMENT - *FOR POSSIBLE ACTION*

NOTICE: Items on this agenda may be taken in a different order than listed, combined for consideration by the Council, or removed from the agenda.

Notice of this meeting was posted in the following location:

Sagebrush Ecosystem Program, 201 S. Roop Street, Carson City, Nevada
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, 901 S. Stewart Street, Carson City, Nevada
Department of Agriculture, 405 South 21st Street, Sparks, Nevada
Department of Wildlife, 1100 Valley Road, Reno, Nevada
Nevada State Library & Archives Building, 100 North Stewart Street, Carson City, Nevada
Grant Sawyer Office Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada
Capitol Building, 101 North Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada
Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada

Notice of this meeting was also posted on the Sagebrush Ecosystem Program website at:

<http://sagebrusheco.nv.gov>

We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for individuals with disabilities who wish to attend the meeting. If special accommodations or assistance at the meeting are requested, please notify our office by writing to the Sagebrush Ecosystem Program, 201 S. Roop Street, Suite 101, Carson City, NV 89701; or by email at timrubald@sagebrusheco.nv.gov or calling 775-684-8600 no later than two (2) working days prior to the scheduled meeting.

Please contact Tim Rubald at 201 S Roop St Ste 101 Carson City, Nevada 89701; or email timrubald@sagebrusheco.nv.gov ; or phone 775-684-8600 to obtain support material for the agenda. Materials will also be posted on the <http://sagebrusheco.nv.gov> website.

Video Viewing Location:

This meeting will be available at the time of the meeting on the Legislative Council Bureau's website. This is for viewing only and is not interactive; some presentations may not be viewable concurrent with the meeting activity due to technical limitations. Any presentations that are available before the meeting will be posted on the Sagebrush Ecosystem Program website at <http://sagebrusheco.nv.gov>.

To view the meeting live on the internet, please go to <http://www.leg.state.nv.us/>, click on *Calendar of Meetings* in the upper right hand side of the page, and then click on *View* under the appropriate listing.